



**ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY OF CANADA
YOUTH NEWSLETTER - June 2016 - Edition #3**

This regular newsletter is distributed by the Royal Commonwealth Society of Canada to highlight Commonwealth-related programs, events or initiatives occurring around the Commonwealth that have a youth aspect or may be of interest to youth or those who support youth. Please distribute freely within your networks.

The RCS Canada is redistributing this information and is not held responsible for any errors that may be present in this digest; always refer to the sponsoring organization to confirm information and deadlines.

National Student Commonwealth Forum in the Greater Commonwealth Community

The 44th National Student Commonwealth Forum, a program of the Royal Commonwealth Society Ottawa Branch, was held in Ottawa from May 1st - 6th to great success. Read about the experience written by an Alumnus of the program, and current Planning Team member Laura Weibe of Leamington, Ontario. In addition to volunteering for the Forum, Laura Weibe wrote the article as part of her new role on the Membership Committee in Office of Inclusion and Engagement of the the Commonwealth Youth Council. Laura is one of two Canadians on this 8-person committee, along with Abigail Theano-Pudwill of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Article: <https://commonwealthyouthcouncil.wordpress.com/2016/06/01/canadian-youth-gather-in-nations-capital-to-discuss-commonwealth-procedures/>

NSCF Program: <http://www.nscf-fnec.ca/>

CYC Membership Committee:

<http://us13.campaign-archive2.com/?u=fe358c4131f7fd171f4bffd18&id=e0c5ade452>

Get involved in your passions, internationally with the Commonwealth!

The Commonwealth offers the opportunity for youth to get connected and advocate for issues that are important to them. Youth networks also discuss and consult on issues that affect young people and citizens of the Commonwealth, and initiate youth-led programmes that make a difference.

Current networks include:

- [Commonwealth Youth Council](#)
- [Commonwealth Students Association](#)
- [Commonwealth Alliance for Youth Entrepreneurs](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Climate Change Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Sport for Development and Peace Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Human Rights and Democracy Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Gender Equality Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Correspondent](#)

In the coming Youth Newsletters, we will highlight some of the work these networks are doing... but it is never too late to become involved!

Commonwealth Human Rights and Democracy Network

This is one of the newest Commonwealth Youth Networks; it raises awareness about human rights and political participation for youth in the Commonwealth and identifies the ways and processes to involve young people in tackling human rights challenges and promoting democracy. The network also observes election processes.

Membership is currently open to willing individuals and organisations from across the Commonwealth. If you are interested in being involved or would like more information, email: youth@commonwealth.int

Commonwealth Youth Gender and Equality Network (CYGEN)

The aim of CYGEN is to build a network of young people from across the Commonwealth who can collaborate and share good practice in their work. Youth voices on gender issues are not represented in formal Commonwealth youth structures, and this is a vacuum which urgently needs to be filled in order to create a more robust network of advocates, who can effectively push for policy change at local, national, regional and international levels.

To learn more:

<https://www.thercs.org/youth-and-education/commonwealth-youth-gender-and-equality-network/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CYGENetwork>

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Secretariat (CPA) in London, UK welcomed four interns from the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada in April. The Saskatchewan Legislative Interns - Marie Digney, Marnie Howlett, Bram Lerat, Maeve McLean – met with the CPA's Director of Finance and Administration, Mr Joe Omorodion and Director of Programmes, Meenakshi Dhar for an overview of the work of the CPA in Parliaments across the Commonwealth.



This full 7-month non-partisan internship with the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, includes an international travel component to allow the interns to learn more about approaches to governance in other countries, which is the purpose of the travel. This year the interns visited London, Brussels and Geneva, and just prior to that they visited Ottawa, Canada, our nation's capital.

Learn more about the internship program here:

<http://internship.legassembly.sk.ca/>

Article from the University of Regina:

[http://www.uregina.ca/external/communications/feature-](http://www.uregina.ca/external/communications/feature-stories/current/2016/03-16.html)

[stories/current/2016/03-16.html](http://www.uregina.ca/external/communications/feature-stories/current/2016/03-16.html)

Commonwealth in Canada - The Commonwealth of Learning

The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) helps governments and institutions to expand the scale, efficiency and quality of learning by using new approaches, appropriate technologies and open and distance learning (ODL) methodologies. Headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia, COL promotes innovation and works with international partners to facilitate learning in support of sustainable development goals. It is financed by voluntary contributions from Commonwealth governments, including the Government of Canada.

Learn more about COL: <https://www.col.org/>

An interesting project from COL is the Aptus classroom without walls to help teachers and students learn in an “unconnected” environment, either without power or without internet.

Learn more about Aptus here: <https://www.col.org/services/knowledge-management/aptus>

Canadian Receives Routledge-Round Table studentship

Minah Ahn of Toronto is the winner of the Routledge-Round Table Award for 2015. As a result, Minah is now pursuing an MA in Human Rights at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies in the University of London. Minah Ahn was born in Seoul, South Korea and raised in Vancouver. She moved to Toronto to pursue her undergraduate studies in International Relations and Political Science at the University of Toronto, St Michael's College. Her research interests include human rights, international law and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The award is open to students from Commonwealth countries outside the United Kingdom, who have been accepted by the Institute for Commonwealth Studies for the MA course in Understanding and Securing Human Rights.

Read the full article here:

<http://www.commonwealthroundtable.co.uk/commonwealth/americas/canada/winning-routledge-round-table-studentship-award/>

2016 Commonwealth Master's Scholarships

Applications for Commonwealth Master's Scholarships in Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Sri Lanka and at the University of the South Pacific are currently open.

Application Deadline: June 30, 2016

Check the Association of Commonwealth Universities website for updated information.

<https://www.acu.ac.uk/scholarships/commonwealth-scholarships/>

2016 Commonwealth Scholarships for Canadians to study in the UK

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK has launched a competition for Canadians to pursue doctoral studies in September/October 2016 in the United Kingdom (UK). The scholarships are funded by the United Kingdom Department for Business, Innovation and Skills in conjunction with UK universities.

Application deadline: June 17, 2016

More information: <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/scholarships-developed-cw/>

Commonwealth Asset Bank: Commonwealth e-Book for Children

A new digital book is available, called: *Our Story, Our World, Our Commonwealth* and teaches young children about the Commonwealth community and our shared values of peace, equality and democracy.

Available for free download:

<http://assets.thecommonwealth.org/assetbank-commonwealth/action/viewAsset?id=23974&index=0&total=17&view=viewSearchItem>

Harry Hodson Memorial Prize (The Roundtable)

This is an annual award by *The Round Table* in memory of the journal's late Editor, Harry Hodson. It is awarded for a publishable article, contributed by anyone aged 30 years or younger. Applicants for the award should contribute an essay of between 1500 and 2000 words in length on a topic of relevance to the contemporary Commonwealth.

Deadline: December 31st 2016

<http://www.commonwealthroundtable.co.uk/journal/harry-hodson-memorial-prize/>

Additional Resources:

<http://www.youngcommonwealth.org/>

<http://www.yourcommonwealth.org/>

<http://thecommonwealth.org/our-work/youth>

<https://www.thecommonwealth-educationhub.net/>